



D. KENT MICHIE
Insurance Commissioner
Utah Insurance Department

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

JOHN 'MICKEY' BRAUN, JR., CIE
Assistant Commissioner
Office of the Commissioner

Bail Bond Oversight Board Meeting

Meeting Information

Date: January 17, 2007

Time: Noon

Place: **Heber Wells Bldg**
6th Flr, 160 E. 300 S.

Board Members

(Attendees = x)

xDominic Sanone, Chairman

xWayne Carlos, Vice-Chairman

xRick T. Westmoreland,

Ralph Cragun

xMichael Weddington

xMickey Braun

xBert Christenson

Andrew D. Bilanzich

Insurance Department Staff

xPerri Babalis

Darrel Powell

xTara Lundgren

xTracy Klausmeier

xJilene Whitby

MINUTES

Welcome

General Session (*Open to the Public*)

- **Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Rick made the **motion** to accept the minutes from the last meeting without change.

Wayne seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in its favor.

- **Approval of Recommended Actions from Executive Session**

The department had no recommended actions.

- **Complaints/Investigations/Unpaid Forfeitures Report** / Tara Lundgren

There were no new investigations or unpaid forfeitures to report.

- **New Application** / Mickey Braun

- **Advantage Bail Bonds, LLC**

- The owners, Josefa Tafua and Craig Gubler were present. Dominic asked Mr. Tafua if he would share his background with the Commission. His first experience was in 1989 in California as an agent. From there he moved to Utah, going to work for Beehive and Sportsman in bail enforcement. Later he wrote bail with Cedar Post, Acme and Advantage and All Star in Vegas. He was an agent with Cedar Post for one year.
 - Rick made a **motion** to move into Executive Session, Mike seconded it and the vote was unanimous.

- Dominic explained to Mr. Tafua and Mr. Gubler that the Commission was concerned over Mr. Tafua's connection with Cedar Post, an agency that left the state owing large amounts in unpaid forfeitures.

- Rick made the **motion** to accept Advantage's license; Mike seconded it and the vote was unanimous in its favor.

- Craig Gubler gave his background. He is a retired general manager of a firm that built houses in three states. He will back Advantage Bail Bond.

- **Old Business**

None

- **New Business**

- Tara asked if any had the experience of having another bail agency arrive at the jail before them and take the business they were called in to take care of. All had. Dominic said it did not happen often. Wayne said that sometimes the jailer will call two different bail bond agencies and the first there gets the business. It was noted that sometimes the jailers would call his or her favorite bail bond agency. Dominic noted this was hard to prove, which is why he has not complained about it.
- Rick wondered how long it would take to replace him on the board? Perri said it would take about two months. A person in his office may apply.
- Dominic asked if anyone had heard from Ralph as he was not in attendance. Jilene said that he was ill. In a previous discussion, Ralph had indicated to Jilene that he was going to resign from the Board. **Dominic said he would call and ask Ralph if he was planning to resign.**
- Wayne asked if Tara would be sending out renewals soon? **She said she would be sending out a notice.**
- Wayne asked if it was legal for two agencies to have the same phone number? Mickey said there might be a prohibition in Chapter 23a or the advertising rule R590-130. Rick said it would depend on how the phone is answered. Perri said that one reference in the Code dealing with "false or misleading conduct" is tied to a product and would not apply here. Tara noted that all bail bond agencies answer, "Bail bonds." Perri said the Board could recommend the Commissioner write a rule. **Mickey will see if there is a prohibition against it.**

- **Adjourn**

At 12:55 p.m. Rick made a **motion** to adjourn; Wayne seconded it and the vote was unanimous.

Next Meeting

February 21, 2007, 6th floor conference room, Heber Wells Building

2007 Meetings

Jan. 17, Rm 3112	May 16, Rm 4112	Sep. 19, Rm 4112
Feb. 21, Rm 3112	Jun. 20, Rm 4112	Oct. 17, Rm 4112
Mar. 21, Rm 4112	Jul. 18, Rm 4112	Nov. 21, Rm 4112
Apr. 18, Rm 4112	Aug. 15, Rm 4112	Dec. 19, Rm 4112